

# THE LOCAL COMMUNITY



**Nisthill Wind Farm will work closely with local communities, businesses and residents in seeking to ensure that the project will bring tangible benefits to local people and help meet our national climate change and energy security needs.**

## Business, Jobs and Investment

We would like to hear from businesses in Orkney to ensure that we can fully consider the skills and services of local people and suppliers if the Nisthill Wind Farm receives approval.

The opportunities available would include those for:

- An engineering, procurement and construction contractor;
- Construction material suppliers: concrete, aggregate and building materials;
- Electrical contractors: supply and installation of plant, cabling, earthing, etc.
- Plant and equipment hire contractors: excavation earthworks, cranes, welfare units, etc.
- Labour hire companies: engineers, plant operatives and general labourers;
- Transport: taxis and minibuses for local labourers.

## Local Accommodation Providers

Construction projects of this nature typically require some specialist technicians from outside the area, so they will require local accommodation and catering facilities.

## Community Benefit

Community Benefit is something that comes as part and parcel of renewable energy developments these days and whilst it is not considered a 'benefit' in terms of the planning application, the Scottish Government has set the bar in terms of the amount a project is expected to contribute. This amount is £5,000 per MW of installed capacity. With Nisthill Wind Farm, this would mean up to £132,000 per year for the lifetime of the scheme depending on the final number and capacity of wind turbines.

We want to try to ensure that the funds help the surrounding communities become more resilient and sustainable in the long term. We will work with communities to ensure a suitable body is in place to manage the proposed funds.

There are many options open to the community on how to use this community benefit to generate additional income. The Scottish Government would like to see communities maximising the potential a project such as a wind farm can bring through investment, and increased shared ownership is one of its primary aims going forwards.

Please feel free to write any ideas that you have on how community benefit could make a positive contribution to your local community on the feedback forms provided, or just have a chat with us while you are here.